

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 DODE-00 /066 W
----- 093775 /66

R 211100Z DEC 76
FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4198
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS ZAGREB 1072

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, YO, US
SUBJECT: ZAGREB PRESS TREATMENT OF CARTER CABINET APPOINTMENTS

REF: ZAGREB 1039

1. ZAGREB AND SLOVENE PRESS FOR THE MOST PART HAVE TAKEN A STRAIGHT FORWARD, NEWS-TYPE, APPROACH TO CARTER CABINET APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED SUBSEQUENT TO NAMING OF CYRUS VANCE AS SECRETARY OF STATE (REFTEL). WITH EXCEPTIONS DESCRIBED BELOW, ANNOUNCEMENTS LIMITED TO BRIEF AP OR TANJUB WIRE SERVICE STORIES WHICH USUALLY APPEARED ON PAGE ONE OR SECOND NEWS PAGE OF MOST PAPERS IN THIS AREA.

2. ANDREW YOUNG, AS AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WAS THE SUBJECT OF A PREDOMINANTLY SYMPATHETIC DISPATCH ENTITLED "BLACK PASTOR ON THE EAST RIVER" BY NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT VUKOV COLIC IN THE DECEMBER 18 EDITION OF "VJESNIK." TREATMENT ESSENTIALLY BIOGRAPHIC WITH EMPHASIS ON YOUNG'S PREVIOUS CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH CARTER, WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING AND KING'S MOVEMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE 60'S, AND YOUNG'S EXCELLENT CREDENTIALS FOR DEALING WITH AFRICAN NATIONS. COLUMN QUOTES MARY MCGRORY ON LATTER QUALIFICATION: "YOUNG IS A MAN WHO HAS HAD THE DOGS SICKED ON HIM. HE HAS BEEN BITTEN AND ARRESTED JUST LIKE THE WRITERS IN SOWETO... HIS APPOINTMENT WILL MEAN A LOT

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FOR US FOREIGN POLICY AND FOR THE UN."

3. VVUKOV COLIC THINKS YOUNG'S STYLE, TEMPERAMENT AND OUTLOOK SHOULD SERVE HIM WELL IN THE UN ASSIGNMENT. THE COLUMNIST BUTTRESSES HIS OPINION WITH YOUNG'S OWN STATEMENTS: ON OUTLOOK: "THUS FAR, WE OFTEN HAVE BEEN ON THE WRONG SIDE. WE ARE NO LONGER

THE WORLD'S POLICEMAN. THE US MUST BE MORALLY ON THE RIGHT SIDE." ON NEGOTIATING STYLE (IN RESPONSE TO THE CRITICISM OF CONGRESSIONAL COLLEAGUES WHO THINK YOUNG IS TOO TACTICAL AND TOO RESTRAINED): "NOTHING CAN BE ACHIEVED BY SHOUTING AT THE TOP OF YOUR LUNGS." ON SUBSTANCE: "WE ARE NOT GOING TO CHANGE POLICY, ONLY STYLE. I SEE NO ESSENTIAL CHANGES ON CHINA OR THE MIDDLE EAST." HOWEVER, KNOWING YOUNG AS A ONE-TIME OPPONENT OF THE VIETNAM WAR, VUKOV COLIC CAN NOT SEE HIM CONTINUING TO OPPOSE UN MEMBERSHIP FOR VIETNAM. "HE WILL DEMAND CHANGE," SAYS THE COLUMNIST.

4. EVIDENTLY NOT WISHING TO BE SEEN AS ENTIRELY POSITIVE, AS A PARTING SHOT VUKOV COLIC CAN NOT RESIST SETTING FORTH ONE OF HIS USUAL, MELODRAMATIC, DAYTIME SERIAL PRONOUNCEMENTS. FIRST HE QUOTES YOUNG SEEING THE UN JOB AS "A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY BUT A SUICIDAL CHALLENGE." THEN HE ASKS, ALMOST RHETORICALLY, "WILL THIS UNCONVENTIONAL AMBASSADOR ESCAPE THE FATE OF ALL DEMOCRATIC (PARTY) REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICA IN THE UNITED NATIONS WHO HAVE HAD TO LIE IN THE WORLD ORGANIZATION, AS DID STEVENSON DURING CUBA AND GOLDBERG DURING THE VIETNAM WAR?"

5. DELO (LJUBLJANA) FOR DECEMBER 18 PRINTS A TANJUB COMMENTARY ON THE APPOINTMENT OF ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI AS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR. THIS ARTICLE EMPHASIZES FIRST CARTER'S DENIAL THAT ANY EXTERNAL FACTOR SUCH AS AN ALLEGED LACK OF SOVIET "AFFECTION" FOR BRZEZINSKI PRECLUDED THE LATTER BEING APPOINTED SECRETARY OF STATE AND, SECONDLY, BRZEZINSKI'S OBSERVATION THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR WILL NOT BE AS THEY WERE IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS BUT "MUST ADJUST TO THE INTERESTS OF PEACE."

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6. BORBA'S DECEMBER 20 "WASHINGTON WEEK" COLUMN BY US CORRESPONDENT VELIMIR BUDIMIR DEALS WITH THE TECHNIQUE OF CARTER'S CABINET SELECTION PROCESS. BUDIMIR IS OF THE OPINION CARTER HAS APPROACHED THIS IMPORTANT TASK IN A "LOGICAL, METHODICAL AND SKILLFUL" WAY THAT HAS AVOIDED VIRTUALLY ALL DOMESTIC CRITICISM. THE REPUBLICANS HAVE ADOPTED A "WAIT AND SEE" ATTITUDE, AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY LIBERALS SEEM TO BE SATISFIED THUS FAR. BUDIMIR CALLS ATTENTION TO CARTER'S STATEMENT THAT HE IS NOT BEHOLDEN TO ANY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AND THAT HE IS FREE TO SELECT CABINET OFFICERS AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF ABILITY. THE ARTICLE INCLUDED SPECULATION ON SEVERAL POSSIBLE

CHOICES FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, WITH SOME DESCRIBED AS "HAWKISH" AND SOME (APPARENTLY THE OPPOSITE ATTRIBUTE) AS SHOWING "A READINESS TO COOPERATE WITH THE SOVIET UNION." BUDIMIR GIVES CARTER OVERALL HIGH MARKS ON HIS CABINET SELECTIONS SAYING, "CARTER EVIDENTLY HAS DECIDED MORE FOR A GOVERNMENT OF COMPETENT

PROFESSIONALS AND PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK AND LESS
FOR ONE WHICH WOULD GIVE THE APPEARANCE OF A POLITICAL OR IDEO-
LOGICAL BALANCE."

7. DECEMBER 18 "VECER" (MARIBOR) PRINTED AN UNSIGNED COMMENTARY
ENTITLED "WHAT IS ROSALYNN CARTER LIKE?" THIS PIECE STATES THAT
MRS. CARTER DID A FIRST-RATE JOB REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES
RECENTLY AT THE INAUGURATION OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ-PORTILLO,
THAT HER TALENTS AS AN AUXILIARY DIPLOMAT WILL BE USED AGAIN IN
THE FUTURE, AND THAT SHE MAY VERY WELL PLAY A "CHEF DE CABINET"
ROLE IN THE CARTER WHITE HOUSE, THE LIKES OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN
SEEN SINCE THE DAYS OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, PRESIDENT ELECT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ZAGREB01072
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760470-0151
From: ZAGREB
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761222/aaaaatba.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ZAGREB 1039
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ; ZAGREB PRESS TREATMENT OF CARTER CABINET APPOINTMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, YO, US, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006